

In the Claims:

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10. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a self-control traveling system for an expressway, comprising:

(a) determining whether at least one image received from an imaging device contains information indicating a starting point for enabling a self-control traveling operation;

(b) determining whether a self-control traveling command is inputted according to a result of the determination at the step (a), switching a driving mode from a manual driving mode to an automatic driving mode, requesting that destination information be inputted, and starting the self-control traveling operation;

(c) searching for corresponding map information associated with the inputted destination information when the self-control traveling operation is started, determining whether a turning point is indicated in the searched map information, and performing the self-control traveling operation according to a result of the determination;

(d) determining whether turning-point information is inputted among input image information during the self-control traveling operation;

(e) controlling an automatic turning operation or determining whether an automobile has arrived at an end point according to a result of the determination at the step (d); and

(f) switching the driving mode from the automatic driving mode to the manual driving mode according to a result of the determination at the step (e), and terminating the self-control traveling operation. ~~The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein step (e)~~

~~comprises:~~

~~(e-1) changing a traveling route to the turning point when the automobile arrives at the turning point;~~

~~(e-2) notifying the driver that a section of the self-control traveling operation will end soon when the automobile gets near to the destination during searching for the map information after step (e-1) is completed; and~~

~~(e-3) determining whether a sign image indicating the end point is contained in the input image information after step (e-2) is completely performed.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a self-control traveling system for an expressway, comprising:

(a) determining whether at least one image received from an imaging device contains information indicating a starting point for enabling a self-control traveling operation;

(b) determining whether a self-control traveling command is inputted according to a result of the determination at the step (a), switching a driving mode from a manual driving mode to an automatic driving mode, requesting that destination information be inputted, and starting the self-control traveling operation;

(c) searching for corresponding map information associated with the inputted destination information when the self-control traveling operation is started, determining whether a turning point is indicated in the searched map information, and performing the self-control traveling operation according to a result of the determination;

(d) determining whether turning-point information is inputted among input image information during the self-control traveling operation;

(e) controlling an automatic turning operation or determining whether an automobile has arrived at an end point according to a result of the determination at the step (d); and

(f) switching the driving mode from the automatic driving mode to the manual driving mode according to a result of the determination at the step (e), and terminating the self-control traveling operation. ~~The method as set forth in claim 7,~~ wherein step (f) is carried out by switching the driving mode from the manual driving mode to the automatic driving mode when the automobile arrives at a tollgate located at the end point and the automobile is stopped.

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